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IRON. *adj.*

1. Made of iron.

In iron walls they deem'd me not secure. *Shaksp. H. VI.*
Get me an iron crow, and bring it straight
Unto my cell. *Shaksp. Romeo and Juliet.*

Some are of an iron red, shining, and polite; others not
polite, but as if powdered with iron dust. *Woodward.*

Roll-cats and wheels do a great deal of injury to warrens:
the way of taking them is in hutches, and iron traps. *Mortim.*

2. Resembling iron in colour.

A piece of stone of a dark iron grey colour, but in some
parts of a ferruginous colour. *Woodward on Fossils.*

Some of them are of an iron red, and very bright. *Woodw.*

3. Harsh; severe; rigid; miserable; calamitous: as, the iron
age, for an age of hardship and wickedness. These ideas may
be found more or less in all the following examples.

Three vigorous virgins, waiting still behind,
Assist the throne of th' iron scepter'd king. *Crashaw.*

O sad virgin, that thy power
Might bid the soul of Orpheus sing
Such notes as warbled to the strings,
Drew iron tears from Pluto's cheek,
And made hell grant what love did seek. *Milton.*

In all my iron years of wars and dangers,
From blooming youth down to decaying age,
My fame ne'er knew a stain of dishonour. *Rowe.*

Jove crush the nations with an iron rod, *Pope's Odyssey.*

And every monarch be the scourge of God. *Pope's Odyssey.*

4. Indissoluble, unbroken.

Raffi Elpenor, in an evil hour,
Dry'd an immeasurable bowl, and thought
T' exhale his fureit by irragious sleep,
Imprudent: him death's iron sleep oppress. *Phillips.*

5. Hard; impenetrable.

I will converse with iron witted fools,
And unresponsive boys: none are for me,
That look into me with confid'rate eyes. *Shaksp. R. III.*

1. To smooth with an iron.

2. To shackle with iron.

IRONICAL. *adj.* [from *ironia*, Fr. from *irony*] Expressing one thing
and meaning another; speaking by contraries.

In this fallacy may be comprised all *ironical* mistakes, or
expressions receiving inverted significations. *Brown.*

I take all your *ironical* civilities in a literal sense, and shall
expect them to be literally performed. *Swift.*

IRONICALLY. *adv.* [from *ironia*] By the use of irony.

Socrates was pronounced by the oracle of Delphos to be the
wisest man of Greece, which he would turn from himself
ironically, saying, there could be nothing in him to verify the
oracle, except this, that he was not wise, and knew it; and
others were not wise, and knew it not. *Bacon.*

The dean, *ironically* grave, *Swift.*

Still shunn'd the fool, and lash'd the knave.

IRONMONGER. *n. s.* [from *iron* and *monger*.] A dealer in iron.

IRONWOOD. *n. s.* A kind of wood extremely hard, and so pon-
derous as to sink in water. It grows in America. *Rob. Cruso.*

IRONWORT. *n. s.* [from *iron* and *wort*, Latin.] It is a plant with a labiate
flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip or beard is
divided into three parts: out of the flower-cup rises the pointal,
attended, as it were, by four embryos; which afterward turn
to so many oblong seeds, shut up in an husk, which before was
the flower-cup: to these marks must be added, the flowers
growing in whorles at the wings of the leaves, which are cut
like a crest, and differ from the other leaves of the plant. *Mill.*

IRONY. *adj.* [from *iron*.] Made of iron; partaking of iron.

The force they are under is real, and that of their fate but
imaginary: it is not strange if the *irony* chains have more
solidity than the contemplative. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

Some springs of Hungary, highly impregnated with vitrio-
lick salts, dissolve the body of one metal, suppose iron, put
into the spring; and deposite, in lieu of the *irony* particles car-
ried off, coppery particles. *Woodward on Fossils.*

IRONY. *n. s.* [from *ironia*, Fr. *ironia*.] A mode of speech in
which the meaning is contrary to the words: as, *Bolingbroke*
was a holy man.

So grave a body, upon so solemn an occasion, should not
deal in *irony*, or explain their meaning by contraries. *Swift.*

IRRADIANCY. *n. s.* [from *irradiance*, French; *irradiation*, Latin.]

1. Emission of rays or beams of light upon any object.

The principal affection is its translucency; the *irradiance*
and sparkling, found in many gems, is not discoverable in
this. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

2. Beams of light emitted.

Love not the heavenly spirits? Or do they mix
irradiance of virtual, or immediate touch? *Mit. Par. Leg.*

3. To adorn with light emitted upon it; to brighten.

When he thus perceives, that these opacous bodies do not
hinder the eye from judging light to have an equal plenary
diffusion through the whole place it *irradiates*, he can have no

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difficulty to allow air, that is diaphanous, to be every where
mingled with light. *Digby on Bodies.*

It is not a converting but a crowning grace; such an one
as *irradiates* and puts a circle of glory about the head of him
upon whom it descends. *South.*

2. To enlighten intellectually; to illumine; to illuminate.

Celestial light

Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers
irradiate; there plant eyes: all mist from thence
Purge and dispel. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*

3. To animate by heat or light.

Ethereal or solar heat must digest, influence, *irradiate*, and
put those more simple parts of matter into motion. *Hale.*

4. To decorate with shining ornaments.

No weeping orphan saw his father's floor
Our shrines *irradiate*, or imbrize the floor. *Pope.*

IRRADIATION. *n. s.* [from *irradiation*, Fr. from *irradiate*.]

1. The act of emitting beams of light.

If light were a body it should drive away the air, which is
likewise a body, wherever it is admitted; for within the visible
sphere of the *irradiation* of it, there is no point but light is
found. *Digby on Bodies.*

The generation of bodies is not effected by *irradiation*, or
answerably unto the propagation of light; but herein a trans-
mission is made materially from some parts, and ideally from
every one. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

2. Illumination; intellectual light.

The means of derivation and immediate union of these in-
telligible objects to the understanding, are sometimes divine
and supernatural, as by immediate *irradiation* or revelation.
Hale's Origin of Mankind.

IRRATIONAL. *adj.* [from *irrationalis*, Latin.]

1. Void of reason; void of understanding; without the dis-
cursive faculty.

Thus began
Outrage from lifeless things; but discord first,
Daughter of sin, among th' *irrational*
Death introduced. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

He hath eat'n, and lives,
And knows, and speaks, and reasons and discerns;
Irrational till then. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

2. Absurd; contrary to reason.

Since the brain is only a part transmittent, and that humours
are precipitated to the lungs before they arrive to the brain,
no kind of benefit can be effected from *irrational* an applica-
tion. *Harvey on Conjunction.*

I shall quietly submit, not wishing to *irrational* a thing as
that every body should be deceived. *Pope.*

IRRATIONALITY. *n. s.* [from *irrational*.] Want of reason.

IRRATIONALLY. *adv.* [from *irrational*.] Without reason;
absurdly.

IRRECLAIMABLE. *adj.* [in and *reclaimable*.] Not to be re-
claimed; not to be changed to the better.

As for obstinate, *irreclaimable*, professed enemies, we must
expect their calamities will continue. *Addison's Freeholder.*

IRRECONCILABLE. *adj.* [from *irreconcilable*, Fr. in and *reconcilable*.]

1. Not to be reconciled; not to be appeased.

Wage eternal wars, *Milton.*

Irreconcilable to our grand foe.

A weak unequal faction may animate a government; but
when it grows equal in strength, and *irreconcilable* by animos-
ity, it cannot end without some crisis. *Temple.*

There are no factions, though *irreconcilable* to one another,
that are not united in their affection to you. *Dryden.*

2. Not to be made consistent. It has *with* or *to*.

As she was strictly virtuous herself, so she always put the
best construction upon the words and actions of her neigh-
bours, except where they were *irreconcilable* to the rules of
honesty and decency. *Arbutnot, Hist. of John Bull.*

Since the sense I oppose is attended with such gross *irrecon-
cilable* absurdities, I presume I need not offer any thing farther
in support of the one, or in disproof of the other. *Rogers.*

This essential power of gravitation or attraction is *irrecon-
cilable* with the atheist's own doctrine of a chaos. *Beattie.*

All that can be transmitted from the stars is wholly unac-
countable, and *irreconcilable* to any system of science. *Beattie.*

IRRECONCILABLENESS. *n. s.* [from *irreconcilable*.] Impossi-
bility to be reconciled.

IRRECONCILABLY. *adv.* [from *irreconcilable*.] In a manner
not admitting reconciliation.

IRRECONCILED. *adj.* [in and *reconciled*.] Not atoned.

A fervant dies in many *irreconciled* iniquities. *Shaksp. H. V.*

IRRECOVERABLE. *adj.* [in and *recoverable*.]

1. Not to be regained; not to be restored or repaired.

Time, in a natural sense, is *irrecoverable*: the moment just
fled by us, it is impossible to recall. *Rogers.*

2. Not to be remedied.

The *irrecoverable* loss of so many livings of principal
value. *Haber.*

It concerns every man, that would not trifle away his soul
and fool himself into *irrecoverable* misery, with the greatest
seriousness to enquire. *Tillotson's Sermons.*

IRRECOVERABLY. *adv.*

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IRRECOVERABLY. *adv.* [from *irrecoverable*.] Beyond reco-
very; past repair.

O dark, dark, dark amid the blaze of noon;
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse,
Without all hope of day. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The credit of the Exchequer is *irrecoverably* lost by the last
breach with the bankers. *Temple.*

IRREDUCIBLE. *adj.* [in and *reducible*.] Not to be brought or
reduced.

These observations seem to argue the corpuscles of air to
be *irreducible* into water. *Boyle.*

IRREFRAGABILITY. *n. s.* [from *irrefragable*.] Strength of
argument not to be refuted.

IRREFRAGABLE. *adj.* [from *irrefragabilis*, school Latin; *irre-
fragable*, Fr.] Not to be confuted; superior to argumental
opposition.

Strong and *irrefragable* the evidences of Christianity must
be: they who resisted them would resist every thing. *Atterbury.*

The danger of introducing unexperienced men was urged
as an *irrefragable* reason for working by flow degrees. *Swift.*

IRREFRAGABLY. *adv.* [from *irrefragable*.] With force above
confutation.

That they denied a future state is evident from St. Paul's
reasonings, which are of no force but only on that supposition,
as Origen largely and *irrefragably* proves. *Atterbury.*

IRREGULAR. *adj.* [from *irregularis*, Latin.] Not to be over-
thrown by argument.

IRREGULARITY. *n. s.* [from *irregularis*, Latin.]

1. Deviating from rule, custom, or nature.

The am'rous youth
Obtain'd of Venus his desire, *Prior.*

How'er *irregular* his fire.

2. Immethodical; not confined to any certain rule or order.

This motion seems eccentric and *irregular*, yet not well
to be refuted or quieted. *King Charles.*

Regular

Then most, when most *irregular* they seem. *Milton.*

The numbers of pindarics are wild and *irregular*, and
sometimes seem harsh and uncouth. *Conley.*

3. Not being according to the laws of virtue. A soft word for
vicious.

IRREGULARITY. *n. s.* [from *irregularis*, Latin.]

1. Deviation from rule.

2. Neglect of method and order.

This *irregularity* of its unruly and tumultuous motion might
afford a beginning unto the common opinion. *Brown.*

As these vast heaps of mountains are thrown together with
so much *irregularity* and confusion, they form a great variety
of hollow bottoms. *Addison on Italy.*

3. Inordinate practice.

Religion is somewhat less in danger of corruption, while
the sinner acknowledges the obligations of his duty, and is
ashamed of his *irregularities*. *Rogers's Sermons.*

IRREGULARLY. *adv.* [from *irregular*.] Without observation
of rule or method.

Phaeton,
By the wild courses of his fancy drawn,
From East to West *irregularly* hurld,
First let on fire himself, and then the world. *Dryden jun.*

Your's is a soul *irregularly* great,
Which wanting temper, yet abounds with heat. *Dryden.*

It may give some light to those whole concern for their lit-
tle ones makes them to *irregularly* bold as to consult their own
reason, in the education of their children, rather than to rely
upon old custom. *Locke.*

TO IRREGULATE. *v. a.* [from *in* and *regula*, Latin.] To
make irregular; to disorder.

Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds,
shelves, and every interagency *irregulate*. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*

IRRELATIVE. *adj.* [in and *relativus*, Latin.] Having no re-
ference to any thing; single; unconnected.

Separated by the voice of God, things in their species came
out in uncommunicated varieties, and *irrelative* femininities.
Brown's Vulgar Errors.

IRRELIGION. *n. s.* [from *irreligion*, Fr. in and *religion*.] Contempt
of religion; impiety.

The weapons with which I combat *irreligion* are already
consecrated. *Dryden.*

We behold every instance of prophaneity and *irreligion*,
not only committed, but defended and gloried in. *Rogers.*

IRRELIGIOUS. *adj.* [from *irreligion*, Fr. in and *religion*.]

1. Contemning religion; impious.

The issue of an *irreligious* Moor. *Shaksp. Tit. Andron.*

Whoever sees these *irreligious* men,
With burthen of a sickness weak and faint,
But hears them talking of religion then,
And vowing of their souls to ev'ry saint. *Davies.*

Shame and reproach is generally the portion of the impious
and *irreligious*. *South's Sermons.*

2. Contrary to religion.

Wherein that Scripture standeth not the church of God in
any stead, or serveth nothing at all to direct, but may be let

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pais as needfuls to be consulted with, we judge it profane, im-
pious, and *irreligious* to think. *H. cher.*

Might not the queen's domesticks be obliged to avoid swear-
ing, and *irreligious* profane discourse? *Swift.*

IRRELIGIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *irreligious*.] With impiety;
with irreligion.

IRREMEABLE. *adj.* [from *irremediabilis*, Latin.] Admitting no re-
turn.

The keeper charm'd, the chief without delay
Pais'd on, and took th' *irremediabile* way. *Dryden.*

IRREME'DIABLE. *adj.* [from *irremediabile*, Fr. in and *remediabile*.]

Admitting no cure; not to be remedied.

They content themselves with that which was the *irremediabile*
error of former times, or the necessity of the present hath call'd
upon them. *Hooker.*

A steady hand, in governing of military affairs, is more
requisite than in times of peace, because an error committed
in war may prove *irremediabile*. *Bacon.*

Whatever he consults you about, unless it lead to some fatal
and *irremediabile* mischief, be sure you advise only as a
friend. *Locke.*

IRREME'DIABLY. *adv.* [from *irremediabile*.] Without cure.

It happens to us *irremediably* and inevitably, that we may
perceive these accidents are not the fruits of our labour, but
gifts of God. *Tillotson's Worthy Communicant.*

IRREMISIBLE. *adj.* [in and *remitte*, Lat. *irremissibile*, French.]
Not to be pardoned.

IRREMISIBLENESS. *n. s.* [from *irremissibile*.] The quality of
being not to be pardoned.

Thence arises the aggravation and *irremissibility* of the
sin. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

IRREMOVABLE. *adj.* [in and *remove*.] Not to be moved;
not to be changed.

Refolv'd for flight, *Shaksp. Winter's Tale.*

IRRENOVABLE. *adj.* [in and *renovo*.] Void of honour.

For all he did was to deceive good knights,
And draw them from pursuit of praise and fame
To fluggish sloth and sensual delights,
And end their days with *irrenovated* shame. *Fairy Queen.*

IRREPARABLE. *adj.* [from *irreparabilis*, Lat. *irreparable*, Fr.] Not
to be recovered; not to be repaired.

Irreparable is the loss, and patience says it is not past her
cure. *Shaksp. Tempst.*

Toil'd with loss *irreparable*. *Milton.*

It is an *irreparable* injustice we are guilty of, when we are
prejudiced by the looks of those whom we do not know. *Addis.*

The story of Deucalion and Pyrrha teaches, that piety and
innocence cannot miss of the divine protection, and that the
only loss *irreparable* is that of our probity. *Garth.*

IRREPARABLY. *adv.* [from *irreparable*.] Without recovery;
without amendment.

Such adventures befall artists *irreparably*. *Boyle.*

The cutting off that time industry and gifts, whereby the would
be nourished, were *irreparably* injurious to her. *Dec. of Piety.*

IRREPLEVABLE. *adj.* [in and *replevy*.] Not to be redeemed.
A law term.

IRREPREHENSIBLE. *adj.* [from *irreprehensibilis*, Fr. *irreprehensibilis*,
Latin.] Exempt from blame.

IRREPREHENSIBLY. *adv.* [from *irreprehensibilis*.] Without blame.

IRREPRESENTABLE. *adj.* [in and *represent*.] Not to be figured
by any representation.

God's *irrepresentable* nature doth hold against making images
of God. *Stillington.*

IRREPROACHABLE. *adj.* [in and *reproachable*.] Free from
blame; free from reproach.

He was a serious sincere Christian, of an innocent, *irre-
proachable*, may, exemplary life. *Atterbury.*